

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims as follows, substituting any amended claim(s) for the corresponding pending claim(s):

1. (Currently Amended) An ocular scleral prosthesis comprising
an elongated body adapted to be implanted in an elongated pocket surgically formed within scleral tissue of an eye, said pocket being formed in the zone of the globe of said eye exterior to the ciliary body and extending generally circumferentially of said zone for a predetermined length less than a circumference of said globe in said zone,

said pocket having a base comprised of inner layers of said scleral tissue, a flap formed from outer layers of said scleral tissue, an anterior margin and a posterior margin,

said elongated body having a first surface and a second surface opposite said first surface, said first surface and said second surface being adapted to contact said base and said flap of said scleral pocket,

said first surface and said second surface being separated by a distance sufficient to elevate said flap and exert outwardly directed traction on at least said anterior margin of said pocket.

Claims 2–60 (Canceled)

61. (Currently Amended) A prosthesis adapted for contact with the sclera of an eyeball, said prosthesis comprising:

an elongated body having a first end[,] a second end, wherein said first end is more distal from said second end than from any other portion of said body, said body including a first surface and a second surface opposite said first surface, said first surface and said second surface being adapted to each contacting a portion of said sclera[,]; and

means for expanding said contacted sclera to increase the effective working distance of the ciliary muscle of the eyeball.

62. (Original) The prosthesis set forth in Claim 61 wherein said expanding means is one of a ridge and a crest.

63. (Previously Presented) The prosthesis set forth in Claim 61 wherein one of said first surface and said second surface is generally smooth and is adapted to contact ocular tissue within a pocket surgically formed within the sclera of the eyeball.

64. (Previously Presented) The prosthesis set forth in Claim 61 wherein said prosthesis is one of generally rectangular, curved, and elongated.

65. (Previously Presented) The prosthesis set forth in Claim 61 wherein one of said first surface and said second surface comprises an anterior edge and a posterior edge, and said expanding means has a maximum height above said elongated body of one of: (I) intermediate between said anterior edge and said posterior edge, (ii) less than halfway from said anterior edge to said posterior edge, and (iii) at said anterior edge.

66. (Original) The prosthesis set forth in Claim 61 comprises a planform having a first dimension and a second dimension.

67. (Original) The prosthesis set forth in Claim 66 wherein one of said first surface and said second surface is planar.

68. (Original) The prosthesis set forth in Claim 66 wherein said expanding means extends along at least a portion of said first dimension.

69. (Currently Amended) The prosthesis set forth in Claim 66 wherein ~~one of~~ said first dimension is about five (5) millimeters and said second dimension is about two (2) millimeters.

70. (Original) The prosthesis set forth in Claim 61 wherein said prosthesis is made of one of a physiologically acceptable metal, a ceramic material, a synthetic resin, a reinforced composite material, and a flexible material.

71. (Withdrawn) The prosthesis set forth in Claim 61 wherein said prosthesis is provided with an internal cavity.

72. (Withdrawn) The prosthesis set forth in Claim 71 wherein said internal cavity is filled with one of a fluid and a gel.

73. (Withdrawn) The prosthesis set forth in Claim 71 wherein said internal cavity is filled with one of water, a saline solution, an oil, silicone, collagen, and gelatin.

74. (Previously presented) A prosthesis for surgical implant into a pocket in the sclera of an eyeball, said prosthesis comprising an elongated body having a first end[[,]] and a second end, wherein every portion of said body is spaced apart from said first end by a distance less than a distance between said first and second ends,

said body including a first surface and a second surface, said first surface and said second surface being adapted to contact said sclera, said implanted prosthesis configured to apply an outward force on said scleral pocket to elevate the portion of the sclera attached thereto to increase the effective working distance of the ciliary muscle of the eyeball.

75. (Currently Amended) The prosthesis set forth in Claim 74 wherein said ~~base~~ further comprises first surface is an outer surface that is generally smooth and is adapted to contact ocular tissue within the scleral pocket.

76. (Currently Amended) The prosthesis set forth in Claim 74 wherein said elongated body is one of generally rectangular, curved, and ~~elongated~~ arched.

77. (Currently Amended) The prosthesis set forth in Claim 74 wherein one of said first surface and said second surface comprises an anterior edge and a posterior edge, and said prosthesis has a maximum height ~~above said base of~~ located at one of

intermediate between said anterior edge and said posterior edge,
less than halfway from said anterior edge to said posterior edge, and
at said anterior edge.

78. (Original) The prosthesis set forth in Claim 74 comprises a planform having a first dimension, a second dimension, an inner surface and an outer surface.

79. (Original) The prosthesis set forth in Claim 78 wherein one of said first surface and said second surface is planar.

80. (Previously Presented) A scleral prosthesis comprising a body adapted for contact with the sclera of an eye in the region of the ciliary body, said body having a first end, a second end and a ridge, said ridge having a prescribed shape operating to exert a force with respect to the contacted eye to expand the sclera in the region of the ciliary body.

81. (Previously Presented) The scleral prosthesis set forth in Claim 80 wherein said prescribed shape exerts a force with respect to the eye to increase the working distance of the ciliary muscle of the eye.

82. (Previously Presented) The scleral prosthesis set forth in Claim 80 wherein said prescribed shape exerts a force with respect to the eye to increase the amplitude of accommodation of the eye.

83. (Previously Presented) The scleral prosthesis set forth in Claim 80 wherein said body further has an outer surface that is adapted to contact ocular tissue within a pocket surgically formed within the sclera of the eye.

84. (Previously Presented) The scleral prosthesis set forth in Claim 80 wherein said prosthesis is one of generally rectangular, curved and elongated.

85. (Previously Presented) The scleral prosthesis set forth in Claim 80 wherein said body further has a base having an anterior edge and a posterior edge.

86. (Previously Presented) The scleral prosthesis set forth in Claim 85 wherein said base further comprises a planform having a first dimension, a second dimension, an inner surface and an outer surface.

87. (Previously Presented) The scleral prosthesis set forth in Claim 86 wherein said outer surface of said base is planar.

88. (Previously Presented) The scleral prosthesis set forth in Claim 86 wherein said ridge extends along at least a portion of said first dimension of said base.

89. (Currently Amended) The scleral prosthesis set forth in Claim 86 wherein ~~one of~~ said first dimension is about five millimeters and said second dimension is about two millimeters.

90. (Previously Presented) The scleral prosthesis set forth in Claim 80 wherein said prosthesis is made of one of a physiologically acceptable metal, a ceramic material, a synthetic resin, a reinforced composite material and a flexible material.

91. (Withdrawn) The scleral prosthesis set forth in Claim 80 wherein said prosthesis is provided with an internal cavity.

92. (Withdrawn) The scleral prosthesis set forth in Claim 91 wherein said internal cavity is filled with one of a fluid and a gel.

93. (Withdrawn) The scleral prosthesis set forth in Claim 91 wherein said internal cavity is filled with one of water, a saline solution, an oil, silicone, collagen, and gelatin.

94. (Currently Amended) A scleral prosthesis comprising a body adapted for contact with the sclera of an eye in the region of the ciliary body, said body having (i) a base member having an elongated planform with a major dimension, a minor dimension, an inner major surface and an outer major surface, said body being adapted to contact ocular tissue of the eye in the region of the ciliary body, and (ii) a ridge member on said base member that applies a force to the ~~pocket~~ contacted ocular tissue to thereby expand the sclera in the region of the ciliary body.

95. (Previously Presented) The scleral prosthesis set forth in Claim 94 wherein said ridge member exerts a force with respect to the eye to increase the working distance of the ciliary muscle of the eye.

96. (Previously Presented) The scleral prosthesis set forth in Claim 94 wherein said ridge member exerts a force with respect to the eye to increase the amplitude of accommodation of the eye.

97. (Previously Presented) The scleral prosthesis set forth in Claim 94 wherein said outer surface is adapted to contact ocular tissue within a pocket surgically formed within the sclera of the eye.

98. (Previously Presented) The scleral prosthesis set forth in Claim 94 wherein said prosthesis is one of generally rectangular, curved and elongated.

99. (Previously Presented) The scleral prosthesis set forth in Claim 94 wherein said body further has a base having an anterior edge and a posterior edge.

100. (Currently Amended) The scleral prosthesis set forth in Claim ~~80~~ 86 wherein said outer surface of said base is planar.

101. (Currently Amended) The scleral prosthesis set forth in Claim ~~80~~ 86 wherein said ridge ~~member~~ extends along at least a portion of said first dimension of said base member.

102. (Currently Amended) The scleral prosthesis set forth in Claim ~~80~~ 86 wherein ~~one of~~ said first dimension is about five millimeters and said second dimension is about two millimeters.

103. (Previously Presented) The scleral prosthesis set forth in Claim 80 wherein said prosthesis is made of one of a physiologically acceptable metal, a ceramic material, a synthetic resin, a reinforced composite material and a flexible material.

104. (Withdrawn) The scleral prosthesis set forth in Claim 80 wherein said prosthesis is provided with an internal cavity.

105. (Withdrawn) The scleral prosthesis set forth in Claim 104 wherein said internal cavity is filled with one of a fluid and a gel.

106. (Withdrawn) The scleral prosthesis set forth in Claim 104 wherein said internal cavity is filled with one of water, a saline solution, an oil, silicone, collagen, and gelatin.